THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) The proposal for renaming Lucknow Airport as Lucknow-Kanpur Airport is under consideration.

Expansion of IGIA

†2380. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indira Gandhi International Airport is over burdened with passengers and air traffic;

(b) if so, whether Government are formulating any scheme for expansion of the said airport; and

(c) if so, the amount earmarked for implementation of the said scheme and by when the said scheme would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) Following works have been undertaken to upgrade passenger facilities at IGI Airport, Delhi:—

(i) At the arrival level, the terminal building has been connected to visitors lounge.

(ii) The existing arrival hall has also been modified to provide for increased claim length of the 6 conveyor belts. The locations of the custom counters and other facilities are also being modified, which would increase the arrival handling capacity from 1200 peak hour passengers to 1600 peak hour passengers.

(iii) Congestion in the check-in hall has been overcome by shifting the existing glazing towards the city-side thereby adding an area of approximately 600 sq. mts. into the check-in hall.

(iv) The flooring in the arrival and the departure level has been changed to provide for improved ambience of the terminal. The illumination levels in the extended portions have also been enhanced.

(v) Toilets in both arrival and departure areas have also been renovated with superior finish.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Further, taking up of major expansion projects is not considered advisable at this juncture in view of the Government decision to restructure the airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai through long term leasing to the private investors, where in private investors will be required to undertake specified capacity expansion projects in the short term and to meet internationally accepted performance criteria in the long term.

Legislation on surplus staff at SEZs

2381. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are preparing legislation enabling the investors in the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) to sack surplus staff at short notice;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the new measures would be applicable to contract labour as well as to those with regular jobs;

(d) whether besides SEZs, these measures will be operative in several Export Promotion Zones prevalent in the country; and

(e) if so, by when, the proposed legislation is likely to be put in place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.